



PROJECT UPDATE (12-3-13)

The interior retaining walls are now complete, with work shifting to the exterior walls, which will become sound walls once concrete masonry unit (CMU) block is installed. Shortly thereafter, work will begin to reconstruct the entrance/exit into the Mussel Shoals community. In order to accelerate this extensive work, a temporary driveway will be built to the west of the current configuration to maintain access and prevent delays. The new entryway will include improved drainage, lighting and landscaping. Meanwhile, the bike path, with decorative railing, will extend along the southbound shoulder of the highway from Bates Road to Mobile Pier.

To address some of the specific concerns raised by residents, the use of vibratory equipment is critical to ensure compaction in the construction of new structural sections of highway. The contractor will limit the use of the vibratory equipment as much as possible, but cannot perform the work without it.

The observed stockpile of dirt is excavated native material that will be used as backfill. The contractor will keep any stockpiles as damp as possible to prevent fugitive dust. Please know that without stockpiling, the volume of heavy trucking through the community would double.

Existing drainage culverts in front of the community are being cleaned out before the onset of winter to alleviate any drainage concerns and/or flooding, as well as removing debris that has accumulated throughout the years.

Due to the heavy volume of commuter traffic through this coastal corridor, lane closures are only permitted at night. While infrequent, there are several operations that can only be performed under lane closure, such as removing and replacing pavement delineation (striping) and moving k-rail. There will be approximately one week of this work beginning Sunday, December 8. Intermittent late night lane closures within the project limits will occur.

Caltrans apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause and asks for your patience and cooperation so that we may complete the work, which is nearly one year ahead of schedule, as quickly and safely as possible.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the toll-free project hotline at 855-454-6335.